

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 COME-00 AGR-20 ARA-11 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 SS-14 NSC-10 AID-20 CIAE-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

STR-08 /210 R

DRAFTED BY EB: ORF: OFP- FPD: RSSIMPSON: MPBOERNER: ML

EXT 22124 3/30/73

APPROVED BY EB: ORF: FPD: MICHAEL P. BOERNER

USDA/ FAS- WHARP

CLC- KFEDOR (INFO)

----- 071158

R 310031 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

UNCLAS STATE 059573

INFORM CONSULS

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: EAGR, XX, ETRD

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS AFFECTING US MEAT IMPORTS.

1. PRESIDENT NIXON ANNOUNCED MAR 29 THAT HE HAD ORDERED THE COST OF LIVING COUNCIL TO IMPOSE A CEILING ON US PRICES OF BEEF, PORK AND LAMB.
 2. THIS CEILING IS FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD AND WILL APPLY TO PRICES AT THE RETAIL, WHOLESALE AND PACKER LEVELS, BUT NOT TO ANIMALS ON THE HOOF. IT WILL REQUIRE THAT PRICES FOR EACH MEAT ITEM NOT EXCEED THE AVERAGE PRICE CALCULATED FOR THAT ITEM ON THE HIGHEST VALUED 10 PERCENT OF SALES DURING THE THIRTY DAY PERIOD PRIOR TO MAR 29. POSTS SHOULD NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IMPORTED FROZEN BONELESS BEEF PRICES
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AVERAGED AN UNPRECEDENTED 91.2 CENTS PER POUND DURING FIRST 26 DAYS OF MARCH, AND DURING MARCH 13-19 REACHED DAILY HIGHS OF 92.5 CENTS (ACCORDING TO NATIONAL PROVISIONER). THUS, US MARKET LIKELY TO REMAIN HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE MARKET FOR BEEF AND VEAL EXPORTING COUNTRIES.

3. IN WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, TREASURY SECY SHULTZ SAID THE PRESIDENT WAS SENDING TO THE CONGRESS QUOTE FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION UNQUOTE REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO REDUCE OR SUSPEND TARIFFS AND IMPORT QUOTAS ON COMMODITIES WHOSE PRICES HAVE BEEN INCREASING RAPIDLY AND DEMAND CANNOT BE SATISFIED AT REASONABLE PRICES. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THIS REQUEST, IF GRANTED, WOULD AFFECT

DUTY LEVELS ON AT LEAST SOME TYPES OF IMPORTED MEAT (SHULTZ CITED BEEF AND LAMB SPECIFICALLY). QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON MEAT IMPORTS SUBJECT TO MEAT IMPORT ACT OF 1964 HAVE ALREADY BEEN SUSPENDED (SEE STATE 231140, NOTAL). RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE059573
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FPD: RSSIMPSON: MPBOERNER: ML
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730342/aaaaimjh.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2002 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980109
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS AFFECTING US MEAT IMPORTS.
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, XX
To: NOUAKCHOTT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005